PTO/SB/21 (08-03)

Approved for use through 08/30/2003. OMB 0651-0031

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| RADEMIN | Application Number | 09/895,304 | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| IRANSIVIIIIAL | Filing Date | June 29, 2001 Rod Ross | | | | | | | |
| FORM | First Named Inventor | | | | | | | | |
| (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing) | Art Unit | 3731 | | | | | | | |
| | Examiner Name | Bradford C. Pantuck | | | | | | | |
| Total Number of Pages in This Submission | Attorney Docket Number | 155615-0024 (P006X) | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply) | | | | | | | | | |
| Fee Transmittal Form Fee Attached Amendment/Reply After Final Affidavits/declaration(s) Extension of Time Request Express Abandonment Request Information Disclosure Statement Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 | Drawing(s) Licensing-related Papers Petition Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Addre Terminal Disclaimer Request for Refund CD, Number of CD(s) | After Allowance communication to Technology Center (TC) Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) Proprietary Information Status Letter Other Enclosure(s) (please Identify below): Return postcard | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| | OF APPLICANT, ATTORN | EY, OR AGENT | | | | | | | |
| Firm or Individual name Ben J. Yorks Irell & Manella LLP | | | | | | | | | |
| Signature Lm MMw | | | | | | | | | |
| Date August 12, 2004 | | | | | | | | | |
| CERTIF | CATE OF TRANSMISSION | I/MAILING | | | | | | | |
| I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below. | | | | | | | | | |

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Date

August 12, 2004

Catherine M. Sanders

Signature

PTO/SB/17 (10-03)

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o a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

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|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|-----------------|--|--|
| FÉE TRANSMITTAL | | Complete if Known | | | | |
| LEE IKANON | MITAL | Application Number | 09/895,304 | | | |
| • | 0.4 | Filing Date | June 29, 2001 | | | |
| for FY 2004 Effective 10/01/2003. Patent fees are subject to annual revision. | | First Named Inventor | Rod Ross | | | |
| | | Examiner Name | Bradford C. Pantuck | | | |
| Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27 | | Art Unit | 3731 | | | |
| OTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT (\$ |) 0.00 | Attorney Docket No. | 155615-0024 (P006X) | | | |

| METHOD OF PAYMENT (check all that apply) | | FEE CALCULATION (continued) | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------|---------|---------|-------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| Check Credit card Money Other None | | 3. ADDITIONAL FEES | | | | | | |
| Deposit / | | _ | | Entity | | | | |
| Deposit | | | Fee Code | | | Fee (\$) | Fee Description | Fee Paid |
| Account Number | 09-0946 | | 1051 | 130 | 2051 | | Surcharge - late filing fee or oath | ree raiu |
| Deposit Account | Irell & Manella | | 1052 | 50 | 2052 | 25 | Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover sheet | |
| Name The Director is authorized to: (check all that apply) | | | 1053 | 130 | 1053 | 130 | Non-English specification | |
| Charge fee(s) indicated below Credit any overpayments | | 1812 | 2,520 | 1812 | 2,520 | For filing a request for ex parte reexamination | | |
| Charge any additional fee(s) or any underpayment of fee(s) | | s) | 1804 | 920* | 1804 | 920* | Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner action | |
| Charge fee(s) indicated below, except for the filing fee to the above-identified deposit account. | | | 1805 | 1,840* | 1805 | 1,840° | Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action | |
| 10 110 25070 10 | FEE CALCULATION | - | 1251 | 110 | 2251 | 55 | Extension for reply within first month | |
| 1. BASIC FI | | | 1252 | 420 | 2252 | 210 | Extension for reply within second month | |
| Large Entity S | imall Entity | 1 | 1253 | 950 | 2253 | 475 | Extension for reply within third month | |
| | Fee Fee Fee Description Fee Code (\$) | e Paid | 1254 | 1,480 | 2254 | 740 | Extension for reply within fourth month | |
| , , | 2001 385 Utility filing fee | | 1255 | 2,010 | 2255 | 1,005 | Extension for reply within fifth month | |
| 1002 340 | 2002 170 Design filing fee | | 1401 | 330 | 2401 | 165 | Notice of Appeal | |
| 1003 530 | 2003 265 Plant filing fee | | 1402 | 330 | 2402 | 165 | Filing a brief in support of an appeal | |
| 1004 770 | 2004 385 Reissue filing fee | | 1403 | 290 | 2403 | 145 | Request for oral hearing | |
| 1005 160 | 2005 80 Provisional filing fee | | 1451 | 1,510 | 1451 | 1,510 | Petition to institute a public use proceeding | |
| 1 | SUBTOTAL (1) (\$) 0.00 | I | 1452 | 110 | 2452 | 55 | Petition to revive - unavoidable | |
| 2. EXTRA CLAIM FEES FOR UTILITY AND REISSUE | | ICCLIE | 1453 | 1,330 | 2453 | 665 | Petition to revive - unintentional | |
| Z. EXTRA C | Fee from | | 1501 | ., | 2501 | 665 | Utility issue fee (or reissue) | |
| Total Claims | Extra Claims below F | ee Paid | 1502 | 480 | 2502 | | Design issue fee | |
| Independent | -3** = | | 1503 | 640 | 2503 | | Plant issue fee | |
| Claims Multiple Deper | | | 1460 | 130 | 1460 | | Petitions to the Commissioner | |
| Large Entity _I | Concil Entitle | | 1807 | 50 | 1807 | | Processing fee under 37 CFR 1.17(q) | |
| Fee Fee | Fee Fee Fee Description | | 1806 | 180 | 1806 | | Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt | |
| Code (\$) | Code (\$) 2202 9 Claims in excess of 20 | | 8021 | 40 | 8021 | 40 | Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties) | |
| 1202 18 1201 86 | 2202 9 Claims in excess of 20 2201 43 Independent claims in exces | s of 3 | 1809 | 770 | 2809 | 385 | Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR 1.129(a)) | |
| 1203 290 | 2203 145 Multiple dependent claim, if I | not paid | 1810 | 770 | 2810 | 385 | For each additional invention to be |] |
| 1204 86 | 2204 43 ** Reissue independent clair over original patent | ns | 1801 | 770 | 2801 | 385 | examined (37 CFR 1.129(b)) Request for Continued Examination (RCE) | |
| 1205 18 | 2205 9 ** Reissue claims in excess | of 20 | 1802 | 900 | 1802 | 900 | · · · | |
| ,200 10 | and over original patent | | | | | | of a design application | |
| | SUBTOTAL (2) (\$) 0.00 | | | fee (sp | | | D. D. Li | |
| **or number | previously paid, if greater; For Reissues, see | | *Redu | iced by | Basic I | -iling F | ee Paid SUBTOTAL (3) (\$) 0.00 | |

(Complete (if applicable)) SUBMITTED BY Registration No. Ben J. Yorks 33,609 Telephone 949-760-0991 Name (Print/Type) August 12, 2004 Signature

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3731

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Rod Ross et al.

Application No.: 09/895,304

Filed: June 29, 2001

For: CUTTING BLADE ASSEMBLY

FOR A MICROKERATOME

Examiner: Bradford C. Pantuck

Art Group: 3731

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Mail Stop AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The following is in response to the Office Action dated May 18, 2004.

REMARKS

The Examiner rejected claims 21-26 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Austring. Independent claim 21 recites a blade holder with a hole and a bonding agent introduced through the hole to attach the blade holder to a blade. Independent claim 24 recites bonding means introduced through bonding access means in a blade holder.

Although the Austring patent discloses a hole 44 and use of an adhesive, it does not disclose or suggest to introduce the adhesive through hole 44 to attach a blade holder to the blade.

As stated in column 3, lines 53-62 of Austring the hole 44 is used to align the blade holder with a blade in a machining fixture. Austring does not state or suggest using the hole as an access for an adhesive.

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